



**UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
OFFICE OF THE MAJORITY WHIP  
THE HONORABLE JAMES E. CLYBURN (SC-06)**

# **THE WHIP PACK**

**WEEK OF JUNE 9, 2008**

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## **Bill Text and Background for the Week of June 9, 2008**

- H.R. 6003 – Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008
- H.R. 6063 – National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008
- Possible Consideration of H.R. 2642 – Iraq/Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations bill
- Possible Consideration of H.R. 5749 – Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2008

**H.R. 6003 – PASSENGER RAIL INVESTMENT AND IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2008** (Rep. Oberstar – Transportation and Infrastructure) (Subject to a Rule)

**Bill Text:** [HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)  
[Bill Summary and Status](#)

**Rules Committee Meeting:** Monday, June 9, 2008, at 5:00 p.m. in H-313 the Capitol,  
[Meeting Time: 5pm Monday 6/9](#), [Amendment Deadline: 10am Monday 6/9](#), [Special Announcement](#)

**Committee:** [Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-4472

**LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

**MAJOR PROVISIONS OF H.R. 6003**

**Increases Capital and Operating Grants to Amtrak.** The bill authorizes \$4.2 billion (an average of \$840 million per year) to Amtrak for capital grants and \$3.0 billion (an average of \$606 million per year) for operating grants. Past inconsistent Federal support has hampered Amtrak's ability to replace catenaries, passenger cars, bridges, ties, and other equipment necessary for Amtrak to provide service. These capital grants will help Amtrak bring the Northeast Corridor to a state-of-good-repair, procure new rolling stock, rehabilitate existing bridges, as well as make additional capital improvements and maintenance over its entire network. In addition, the operating grants authorized under the bill will help Amtrak pay salaries, health costs, overtime pay, fuel costs, facilities, and train maintenance and operations. These operating grants will also ensure that Amtrak can meet its obligations under its recently negotiated labor contract.

**Develops State Passenger Corridors.** In an effort to encourage the development of new and improved intercity passenger rail services, the bill creates a new State Capital Grant program for intercity passenger rail capital projects, and based on the New Starts transit capital program administered by the Federal Transit Administration. The bill provides \$2.5 billion (\$500 million per year) for grants to States to pay for the capital costs of facilities and equipment necessary to provide new or improved intercity passenger rail. The Federal share of the grants is up to 80 percent. The Secretary of Transportation would award these grants on a competitive basis for projects based on economic performance, expected ridership, and other factors.

**Provides Funding for High-Speed Rail Corridors.** The National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission, established to develop a national transportation vision to address surface transportation needs for the next 50 years, recommends that the United States establish a high-speed rail network that spans the entire country. The bill authorizes \$1.75 billion (\$350 million per year) for grants to States and/or Amtrak to finance the construction and equipment for 11 authorized high-speed rail corridors. The Federal share of the grants is up to 80 percent. The Secretary of Transportation would award these grants on a competitive basis for projects based on economic performance, expected ridership, and other factors.

**Alleviates Rail “Choke Points.”** Many of Amtrak’s service routes outside the Northeast Corridor suffer from poor service reliability and on-time performance because of freight traffic congestion. This congestion prevents Amtrak from retaining and attracting new ridership, and increases Amtrak’s operating costs. The Department of Transportation Inspector General recently reported that if Amtrak achieved an 85 percent on-time performance outside the Northeast Corridor in fiscal year 2006, it would have saved Amtrak \$136.6 million, or almost one-third of its operating budget. Amtrak is required by law to have preferred access on freight corridors; however, freight railroads do not always comply with Amtrak’s access rights. The bill addresses this problem by providing congestion grants to Amtrak and the States for high-priority rail corridors in order to reduce congestion and facilitate ridership growth.

**Reduces Amtrak’s Debt.** Federal support of Amtrak was cut drastically in fiscal year 2000 and 2001, forcing Amtrak to assume a large amount of debt to stay in operation. Amtrak has aggressively targeted this debt, paying down \$600 million from 2002 through 2007. Our bill helps Amtrak to take further steps to reduce its debt, authorizing \$345 million each year for debt service through FY2013. This funding will allow Amtrak to focus its resources on improving existing services and making additional capital and operational improvements.

**Establishes an RFP for High-Speed Rail Service.** A provision of H.R. 6003 directs the Secretary of Transportation to issue a request for proposals for projects for the financing, design, construction, and operation of an initial high-speed rail system operating between Washington, DC, and New York City. Proposals would need to meet certain financial, labor, and planning criteria, as well as a detailed description to account for any impacts on existing passenger, commuter, and freight rail traffic to be considered. If the Secretary receives a qualifying proposal, she would be directed to form a Commission to study any proposals received. Finally, the Secretary would issue a report to the Congress on the Commission’s findings. Any further action on a proposal would need legislative approval by Congress.

**Resolves Disputes between Commuter and Freight Railroads.** Currently, no Federal guidelines exist to mediate disputes between commuter rail providers and freight railroads over use of freight rail tracks or rights-of-way, nor is there a standard forum for negotiating commuter rail operating agreements. The bill establishes a forum at the STB to help complete stalled commuter rail negotiations, helping our rail network operate as efficiently as possible. This section is identical to what was included in H.R. 2701, the “Transportation Energy Security and Climate Change Mitigation Act of 2007”, as ordered reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on June 20, 2007.

**House Report 110-690:**  
[HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)

**Full Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Mark-up:**  
[Markup of H.R. 6003](#), the “Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008”, May 22, 2008

- [National Journal Report](#): Infrastructure Panel Moves \$14.4 Billion Amtrak Authorization Measure
- Opening Statements: [Chairman Oberstar](#), [Chairwoman Brown](#)
- [Full Summary of Subject Matter](#), [Video of the Markup](#)

#### Summary of Committee Votes:

- [Rep. C. Brown, D-Fla. Additional Studies Amendment](#) — Modified the designation of congestion grants; directed the STB to report on the effectiveness 49 U.S.C. 24308(c); directed the Amtrak IG to report on Amtrak's utilization of its facilities; and added a feasibility analysis for the expansion of the South Central High-Speed Rail Corridor to the Port of Houston, Texas. **Adopted by Voice Vote.**
- [Rep. Bill Shuster, R-Pa. Historic Designation of Rail Lines Amendment](#) — Would have required that rail lines designated as historic be treated the same as highways in the Interstate System that receive an historic designation. **Withdrawn.**
- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full House, as Amended, by **Voice Vote.**

#### **Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Mark-up:**

[Markup of H.R. 6003](#), the "Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008", May 20, 2008

- [Full Summary of Subject Matter](#), [Video of the Markup](#)

#### Summary of Committee Vote:

- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full Committee by **Voice Vote.**

#### **CRS Reports:**

[RL33492](#): Amtrak: Budget and Reauthorization

#### **GAO Reports:**

(TBA)

#### **CBO Report:**

[Cost Estimate](#): Ordered Reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

#### **Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Hearings:**

[Amtrak Reauthorization>>](#)

May 14, 2008 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Full Summary of Subject Matter](#), [Video of the Hearing](#)
- Opening Statements: [Chairman James L. Oberstar](#), [Subcommittee Chair, Corrine Brown](#)
- Witness Testimony: [Mr. Alexander Kummant](#), [Mr. Frank Busalacchi](#), [Mr. Ed Wytkind](#), [Mr. Jed Dodd](#), [Mr. Kevin Corbett](#)

[The Role of Intercity Rail During National Emergencies>>](#)

February 11, 2008 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Summary of Subject Matter](#)

[Amtrak Capital Needs>>](#)

July 11, 2007 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Hearing Transcript](#)

[Benefits of Intercity Passenger Rail>>](#)

June 26, 2007 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Summary of Subject Matter](#)

[Amtrak Strategic Initiatives>>](#)

June 12, 2007 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Summary of Subject Matter](#)

[International High-Speed Rail Systems>>](#)

April 19, 2007 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials

- [Summary of Subject Matter](#), [Hearing Transcript](#)

[Transit & Rail Security>>](#)

March 7, 2007 — Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials and Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

- [Summary of Subject Matter](#), [Hearing Transcript](#)

**Organization Statements:**

(TBA)

**Administration Position:**

(TBA)

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

[H.R. 6003 Summary](#) — Transportation and Infrastructure

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

[T&I Approves Historic Amtrak Legislation](#), Transportation and Infrastructure, May 22, 2008

**Other Resources:**

[Cosponsors of H.R. 6003](#)

**H.R. 6063 – NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008** *(Rep. Udall (NM) – Science) (Subject to a Rule)*

**Bill Text:** [HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)  
[Bill Summary and Status](#)

**Rules Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, June 10, 2008, at 4:00 p.m. in H-313 the Capitol,  
[Meeting Time: 4pm Tuesday 6/10](#), [Amendment Deadline: 10am Tuesday 6/10](#), [Special Announcement](#), [Text of the Bill as Ordered Reported](#)

**Committee:** [Committee on Science and Technology](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-6375

**LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

**H.R. 6063 - THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2008**

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the dawn of the United States space program. NASA is the nation's primary civil space and aeronautics R&D agency, and its current civil service workforce consists of approximately 18,400 employees. NASA conducts research and development activities in a wide range of disciplines including aeronautics, astrophysics, heliophysics, planetary science, Earth science and applications, microgravity research, and long-term technology development. NASA also operates a fleet of three Space Shuttles and is assembling and operating the International Space Station (ISS). NASA also maintains a space communications network that supports both NASA missions and other federal agency requirements. NASA's current authorization expires September 30, 2008.

H.R. 6063, the NASA Authorization Act of 2008 reaffirms the basic principles that NASA is and should remain a multi-mission agency with a balanced portfolio of programs in science, aeronautics, and human space flight, including human and robotic exploration beyond low Earth orbit. In addition, the bill also emphasizes the importance of NASA leadership in Earth observations and research, aeronautics R&D to address critical national needs such as the NextGen air traffic control management system, and an exploration program strengthened by international cooperation under strong U.S. leadership.

H.R. 6063 authorizes \$20.21 billion in funding for NASA in FY2009. This includes \$19.21 for:

- Science (\$4,932,200,000)
- Aeronautics (\$853,400,000)
- Exploration (\$3,886,000,000)
- Education (\$128,300,000)
- Space Operations (\$6,074,400,000)
- Cross-Agency Support Programs (\$3,299,900,000)
- Inspector General: (\$35,500,000)

The bill also includes \$1 billion in augmented funding to accelerate the development of the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV) and Ares I Crew Launch Vehicle (CLV), which will replace the Space Shuttle. The Shuttle will be retired in 2010 and the CEV/CLV are currently not expected to be completed until 2015. The \$1 billion in augmented funding will help close this gap, when the U.S. will be reliant on other countries or commercial services (if they are available) for transportation to the International Space Station.

H.R. 6063 also adds an additional Space Shuttle flight to deliver the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer to the International Space Station (ISS) and contains provisions addressing near-Earth objects (such as asteroids), commercial initiatives including commercial crew services, NASA institutional capabilities, space weather, space traffic management, innovation prizes, astronaut health care, and study of export control policies.

H.R. 6063 includes recommendations and findings from 16 hearings that the Science and Technology Committee held throughout the 110th Congress to review every major aspect of NASA's programs. The bill was approved by the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee on May 20 and the full Science and Technology Committee on June 4, both by voice vote.

**House Report:**

[HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)

**Full Committee on Science and Technology Mark-up:**

[Full Committee Markup of H.R. 6063](#): The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008, June 4, 2008

- [National Journal Report](#): House Committee OKs \$20.2B NASA Authorization Bill
- Opening Statements: [Chairman Bart Gordon \(D-TN\)](#), [Subcommittee Chairman Mark Udall \(D-CO\)](#)

**Summary of Committee Votes:**

- [Chairman Gordon, D-Tenn. Manager's Amendment](#) — Would: Add to the list of duties of the Joint Aeronautics Research and Development Advisory Committee the responsibility to make recommendations for, and to monitor development and implementation of, processes for transitioning research and development from NASA and the Federal Aviation Administration to outside entities for additional development. Add a sense of Congress statement that NASA should move forward with plans for an Outer Planets program mission to the Europa-Jupiter system or the Titan-Saturn system as soon as practicable within a balanced Planetary Science program. Direct the NASA administrator to provide the results of an assessment of existing research equipment and support equipment that are manifested for flight to the appropriate congressional committees within 18 months of the bill's enactment. Direct the NASA administrator to provide the results of an assessment of NASA's laboratories capabilities to the appropriate congressional committees within 18 months of the bill's enactment. Require the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) director to work with other appropriate federal agencies to create an interagency committee to conduct a study. The OSTP would be required to submit a report by the end of May 2010 to the appropriate congressional committees on the study's results. It would require NASA to contract with an appropriate organization to create an outreach and technology assistance program to help transfer NASA knowledge and technology to small businesses around the country. The program would support the mission of NASA's Innovative Partnerships Program to provide technical assistance through partnerships with industry and other entities. NASA would be required to submit a report on the program's efforts within one year of the bill's enactment and every year thereafter to the appropriate committees. The amendment would authorize \$4 million in fiscal 2009 to establish the program. The money would come from funds available for the Innovative Partnerships Program. **Adopted by Voice Vote.**
- [Rep. Gingrey, R-Ga. Amendment Repeal Section of 2007 Energy Law](#) — Would have repealed a section of the 2007 energy law that would prohibit federal agencies from buying alternative fuels unless the substances produce less greenhouse gases than conventional fuel sources. **Ruled not Germane.**



- [Rep. B. Gordon, D-Tenn. Table Appeal of Ruling of the Chair](#) — Motion to table the Gingrey, R-Ga., appeal of the ruling of the chair that his amendment was not in order because it was not germane to the bill and not within the committee's jurisdiction. **Agreed to 20-14; R 0-14; D 20-0; I 0-0.**
- [Rep. Gingrey, R-Ga. Amendment Waive A Section of 2007 Energy Law](#) — Would have waived the prohibition in a section of the 2007 energy law related to federal agencies buying alternative fuels unless the substances produce less greenhouse gases than conventional fuel sources, if the waiver is deemed necessary by the NASA administrator to further the agency's mission. **Ruled not Germane.**
- [Rep. B. Gordon, D-Tenn. Table Appeal of Ruling of the Chair](#) — Motion to table the Gingrey, R-Ga., appeal of the ruling of the chair that his amendment was not in order because it was not germane to the bill and not within the committee's jurisdiction. **Agreed to 22-15; R 0-15; D 22-0; I 0-0.**
- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full House, as Amended, by **Voice Vote.**

**Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics Mark-up:**

[Markup of H.R. 6063](#): The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Authorization Act of 2008, May 20, 2008

- [National Journal Report](#): House Subcommittee Backs \$20.2 Billion NASA Authorization
- Opening Statement: [Rep. Mark Udall](#)

**Summary of Committee Vote:**

- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full Committee by **Voice Vote.**

**CRS Reports:**

[RL33568](#): The International Space Station and the Space Shuttle

[RS22818](#): National Aeronautics and Space Administration: Overview, FY2009 Budget, and Issues for Congress

**GAO Reports:**

(TBA)

**CBO Report:**

[Cost Estimate](#): Ordered Reported by the Committee on Science and Technology

**Committee on Science and Technology Hearings:**

[NASA's Aeronautics R&D Program: Status and Issues>>](#)

May 1, 2008 — Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics

- [Hearing Charter](#)
- Opening Statement: [Chairman Mark Udall](#)
- Witness Statements: [Mr. Jaiwon Shin](#), [Mr. Carl J. Meade](#), [Mr. Preston A. Henne](#), [Dr. Ilan Kroo](#)

[NASA's Exploration Initiative: Status and Issues>>](#)

April 3, 2008 — Full Committee on Science and Technology

- [Hearing Charter](#)
- Opening Statement: [Chairman Mark Udall](#)
- Witness Statements: [Dr. Richard Gilbrech](#), [Ms. Cristina T. Chaplain](#), [Dr. Noel Hinnners](#), [Dr. Kathryn Thornton](#)

[NASA's Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request>>](#)

February 13, 2008 — Full Committee on Science and Technology

- [Hearing Charter](#)
- Opening Statements: [Chairman Bart Gordon](#), [Chairman Mark Udall](#)
- Witness Statement: [Dr. Michael Griffin](#)

[NASA's International Space Station Program: Status and Issues>>](#)

April 24, 2008 — Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics

- [Hearing Charter](#)
- Opening Statement: [Chairman Mark Udall](#)
- Witness Statements: [Mr. William Gerstenmaier](#), [Ms. Cristina T. Chaplain](#), [Dr. Edward P. Knipling](#), [Dr. Cheryl Nickerson](#), [Mr. Thomas Pickens III](#), [Dr. Louis Stodieck](#), [Dr. Jeffrey Sutton](#)

[NASA's Science Programs: Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Request and Issues>>](#)

March 13, 2008 — Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics

- [Hearing Charter](#)
- Opening Statement: [Rep. Mark Udall](#)
- Witness Statements: [Dr. S. Alan Stern](#), [Dr. Lennard A. Fisk](#), [Dr. Berrien Moore III](#), [Dr. Steven W. Squyres](#), [Dr. Jack O. Burns](#)

**Organization Statements:**

(TBA)

**Administration Position:**

(TBA)

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

[H.R. 6063 Summary](#) — Committee on Science and Technology

[H.R. 6063 Section by Section](#) — Committee on Science and Technology

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

[Committee Approves NASA Authorization Act](#), Committee on Science and Technology,  
June 4, 2008

[Subcommittee Passes NASA Authorization Act](#), Committee on Science and Technology,  
May 20, 2008

**Other Resources:**

[Cosponsors of H.R. 6063](#)

## **H.R. 2642 – IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL**

*(Appropriations – Rep. Obey) (Subject to a Rule)*

**Bill Text:** HTML Version, PDF Version

Bill Summary and Status

**Rules Committee:** TBA

**Committee:** [Committee on Appropriations](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-2771

### **LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

INFORMATION TO BE ADDED

### **House Report 110-:**

HTML Version, PDF Version

### **CRS Reports:**

[RL34514](#): The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF): Budget and Operations

[RL34362](#): Congressional Oversight and Related Issues Concerning the Prospective Security Agreement Between the United States and Iraq

[RL34460](#): Current Law and Selected Proposals Extending Unemployment Compensation

[RL34340](#): Extending Unemployment Compensation Benefits During Recessions

[RS22849](#): Medicaid Financing

[RL34432](#): Medicaid Rehabilitation Services

[RL34426](#): Medicaid Targeted Case Management (TCM) Benefits

[RS22837](#): Merida Initiative: Proposed U.S. Anticrime and Counterdrug Assistance for Mexico and Central America

[RL32724](#): Mexico-U.S. Relations: Issues for Congress

[RL34451](#): Second FY2008 Supplemental Appropriations for Military Operations, International Affairs, and Other Purposes

[RL32800](#): Sex Offender Registration and Community Notification Law: Recent Legislation and Issues

[RL33362](#): Unemployment Insurance: Available Unemployment Benefits and Legislative Activity

[RL34063](#): Veterans' Medical Care: FY2008 Appropriations

### **GAO Reports:**

(TBA)

### **CBO Report:**

(TBA)

### **Organization Statements:**

(TBA)

### **Administration Position:**

(TBA)

### **Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**

(TBA)

### **Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**

(TBA)

## **H.R.5749 – EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT OF 2008**

*(Rep. McDermott - Ways and Means) (Subject to a Rule)*

**Bill Text:** [HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)

[Bill Summary and Status](#)

**Rules Committee:** TBA

**Committee:** [Committee on Ways and Means](#)

**Committee Staff Contact:** 5-3625

### **LEGISLATION AT A GLANCE:**

#### **HR 5749 - THE EMERGENCY EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION ACT**

- The bipartisan bill was introduced by Representative Jim McDermott and Phil English and favorably reported by the Committee on Ways and Means on April 16.
- Upon enactment, the legislation would provide up to 13 weeks of extended unemployment benefits in every State to workers exhausting regular unemployment compensation.
- In States with higher levels of unemployment, an additional 13 weeks would be available (high unemployment is defined as a seasonally-adjusted six percent total unemployment rate or a four percent insured unemployment rate).
- The weekly benefit amount provided by the program would equal the amount received under regular unemployment compensation. (The average unemployment benefit provides \$290 a week.)
- An individual's benefit year for regular compensation must have ended on or after May 1, 2007 in order to be eligible for benefits.
- The extended benefits program would be in effect through March 2009 (any individual receiving extended benefits before the program terminates would receive their entire 13 weeks).
- All benefits would be paid out of the federal unemployment trust funds (which now have over \$35 billion in reserves).
- This structure is very similar to the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation (TEUC) program established in 2002 in response to the last recession.
- The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates this bill would provide benefits to 3.8 million unemployed workers.

#### **House Report 110-607:**

[HTML Version](#), [PDF Version](#)

#### **Full Committee on Ways and Means Mark-up:**

[Markup of H.R. 5749](#): the Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2008, April 16, 2008

### Summary of Committee Votes:

- [Rep. B. Gordon, D-Tenn. Table Appeal of Ruling of the Chair](#) — Motion to table the Gingrey, R-Ga., appeal of the ruling of the chair that his amendment was not in order because it was not germane to the bill and not within the committee's jurisdiction. **Agreed to 22-15: R 0-15; D 22-0; I 0-0.**
- [Rep. Weller, R-III. Substitute Amendment to the Rangel Substitute Amendment](#) — Would have made revisions to the measure to make available the 13-week extension only to states that fall into three categories: Have an above average unemployment rate (currently the national rate is 5.1 percent). Have experienced a 20 percent rise in unemployment in the same quarter over the past year. Have a 6 percent total unemployment rate or a 4 percent insured unemployment rate. **Rejected 13-24: R 13-2; D 0-22; I 0-0.**
- [Rep. McCrery, R-La. 20-week Requirement Amendment](#) — Would have added a provision to the bill requiring a minimum of 20 weeks of employment for an individual to qualify for the extended benefits offered by the bill. **Rejected 16-20: R 15-0; D 1-20; I 0-0.**
- [Rep. Weller, R-III. Unemployment Insurance Amendment](#) — Would have added a provision to the bill to promote state testing of an unemployment insurance waiver to operate a wage insurance demonstration program. **Rejected 15-21: R 15-0; D 0-21; I 0-0.**
- [Chairman Rangel, D-N.Y., Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute](#) — The Chairman's amendment in the nature of a substitute makes the following changes to HR 5749: In Section 2 (b), it adds a technical clarification ensuring that an individual's potential eligibility for the current-law extended benefits (EB) program does not affect eligibility for the bill's Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) if a State opts to provide EUC before EB. In Section 3 (c), it allows individuals exhausting the first 13 weeks of EUC either before or at the same time a State meets the requisite high unemployment trigger to receive an additional 13 weeks of benefits if the individual remains unemployed and in search of work. **Adopted by Voice Vote.**
- **Vote to Report:** Favorably Reported to the Full House, as Amended, by a Roll Call Vote of **23-13: R 3-12; D 20-1; I 0-0.**

### CRS Reports:

[RL34460](#): Current Law and Selected Proposals Extending Unemployment Compensation

[RL34340](#): Extending Unemployment Compensation Benefits During Recessions

[RL33362](#): Unemployment Insurance: Available Unemployment Benefits and Legislative Activity

### GAO Reports:

(TBA)

### CBO Report:

[Cost Estimate](#): Ordered Reported by the Committee on Ways and Means

**Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support Hearing:**  
**[Hearing on Extending Unemployment Insurance>>](#)**

April 10, 2008 — Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support

- [Hearing Advisory](#)
- Witness Testimony: [Rebecca Blank, Ph. D.](#), [Heidi Shierholz, Ph. D.](#), [Maurice Emsellem](#), [Alex Brill](#)

**Organization Statements:**  
(TBA)

**Administration Position:**  
(TBA)

**Fact Sheets & Talking Points:**  
(TBA)

**Press Releases, News Articles & Related Information:**  
(TBA)

**Other Resources:**  
[Cosponsors of H.R. 5749](#)